## **OPINION SUMMARY**

## MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT

LARRY DECLUE,	)	No. ED101450
	)	
Appellant,	)	Appeal from the Circuit Court
	)	of St. Charles County
vs.	)	
	)	Honorable Frederick L. Westhoff
TARA M. MCCANN D/B/A DISASTER	)	
RECOVERY SPECIALISTS, LLC, and	)	
WILLIAM HORN,	)	
	)	
Respondents.	)	FILED: February 10, 2015

Appellant Larry DeClue ("DeClue") appeals from the judgment of the trial court following a bench trial. DeClue sued Respondent Tara McCann ("McCann") and Respondent William Horn ("Horn") for breach of contract in the Small Claims Division of the Circuit Court of St. Charles County ("Small Claims court"), receiving a default judgment in his favor against McCann in the amount of \$4,006.75 and a judgment of \$500.00 against Horn. McCann applied for a trial *de novo*, which was certified to the Circuit Court of St. Charles County ("the trial court"). After a bench trial, the trial court entered a judgment awarding DeClue damages in the amount of \$1,000 from McCann and in the amount of \$350 from Horn. DeClue argues on appeal that the trial court erred in entering a judgment different than the judgment entered by the Small Claims court, that the trial court violated the Code of Judicial Conduct, and that the trial court erred in entering a judgment with respect to Horn because he appealed only the Small Claims court judgment against McCann.

## AFFIRMED.

<u>Division III holds</u>: The appeal is without merit as DeClue fails to understand the nature of a *de novo* review, and substantially fails to meet his burden with regard to the evidentiary matters raised. Accordingly, we find no error and affirm the judgment of the trial court.

Opinion by: Kurt S. Odenwald, P.J., Robert G. Dowd, Jr., J. and Gary M. Gaertner, Jr., J. Concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Larry DeClue, Appellant Acting Pro Se

Attorney for Respondent Tara McCann: Bond Wilkinson

Attorney for Respondent William Horn: William Horn, Respondent Acting Pro Se

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT PART OF THE OPINION OF THE COURT. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE READER AND SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED OR CITED.